

1. An integrated database system for performing query processing by combining a plurality of external databases, comprising:

query expansion means for referring to the connections among predicates and the strength of the connections included in the predicate dictionary to convert a query, which is thrown into the integrated database system, into one or more query sets.

3. An integrated database system according to claim 1, further comprising:

query extraction means for referring to the specification descriptions to extract queries, which can be executed using the external databases, from the converted query set.

4. An integrated database system according to claim 1, further comprising query selection means for

5. An integrated database system according to claim 4, wherein, when the query selection means selects queries, a lower limit of a approximation level and an upper limit of an execution cost both of which are specified in advance are referred.

7. A program storage medium for storing a program which realizes an integrated database system for performing query processing by combining a plurality of external databases, the program storage medium storing:

a program for realizing query expansion processing which refers to the predicate dictionary to convert a query, which is thrown into the integrated database system, into one or more query sets.